

STOP THE PRESS ON 2013 BEST-OFs

A LATE ENTRY EMERGES IN OUR MUSIC FAVES.

PAGES 20-21

metro

NEW YORK CITY'S #1 FREE DAILY NEWSPAPER

Thursday, December 19, 2013 www.metro.us | t: MetroNew York | f: MetroNew York

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PANDORA Pavé Gift Set
OFFER INSIDE • PAGE 13

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**Dating: Is
your beau
on your
dismiss list?**

PAGE 29

**Not much
time left
to buy
these gifts**

We have your last-minute guide for the little ones, pets and even co-workers. PAGES 22-28



Tail-wagging ending for man who fell on tracks

A loyal companion. Cecil Williams, 61, who fell on the subway tracks, will get to keep his seeing-eye dog after all. **Generosity.** An outpouring of donations will help with the costs of taking care of his best friend. PAGE 02



Sugarplum fairies
2.0

PAGE 02

The East Village Dance Project is giving a Village-themed holiday spin to "The Nutcracker." / BESS ADLER, METRO



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NEWS

Quoted

"We have a very, very different reality than Albany, we always have."

Bill de Blasio



Top 3

What's trending online at Metro.us

1 Jennifer Lawrence slams the word "fat" to Barbara Walters'

2 VIDEO: Fearless Detroit cat attacks woman in the snow'

3 Atlanta high school student suspended for hugging teacher'

A 'Nutcracker' for the East Village

Dance. "The Shell-Shocked Nut" shakes up the holiday classic.

There are no nutcrackers, sugar plums or gingerbread soldiers in Martha Tornay's adaptation of the holiday classic set in the East Village.

In "The Shell-Shocked Nut," a young girl and a female war veteran suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder travel by a hot-air balloon that appears in Tompkins Square Park.

"They go around to all these different places in the neighborhood. They visit the ghost of CBGB, dance with candy children at a local candy shop," said Tornay, artistic director of the East Village Dance Project, where the show's young performers take classes.

Tornay came up with the concept when she held a class at the Avenue C studio shortly after superstorm Sandy.

"The kids were all sort of shaken," she said. "I put on the 'Waltz of the Flowers' and they loved it."

The studio decided to work on a project based on Tchaikovsky's ballet, but with a few twists, making "it an expression of our neighborhood," said Victoria Roberts-Wierzbowski, one of the show's choreographers.



Dancers from the East Village Dance Project practice to prepare for opening night of their interpretation of "The Nutcracker." / BESS ADLER, METRO

If you go



'The Shell-Shocked Nut'

Jan. 3, at 7 p.m.; and Jan. 4-5 at 3 p.m.
Ellen Stewart Theatre, 66 E. 4th St.
\$20 adults, \$15 seniors,

students and children 12 and under
212-475-7710

www.lamama.org
Directed by Martha Tornay and produced by La MaMa in association with GOH Productions.

The girl and veteran's journey also explores life after war and the theme of stress — which Tornay said she and her students felt after the storm.

The studio held a small performance with just students last year, but January will be the adaptation's professional debut.

Ten-year-old Safouane Chestnut said dancing in the show made him feel "free."

Tornay said she hopes the show is similarly cathartic for all the performers.

"Because we all suffer from our own stress disorders," she said.

ANNA SANDERS
anna.sanders@metro.us

Heroic action



Fire truck / GETTY IMAGES

Neighbor catches twin babies tossed to safety from burning Bronx apartment

A neighbor caught two twin boys dropped from their burning Bronx apartment Wednesday morning, officials said.

When a fire broke out in their Williamsbridge apartment just before 7 a.m., the 11-month-old twins were dropped to a neighbor by their father on the third floor, police and fire department officials said.

The twins didn't appear injured.

About a dozen firefighters brought the blaze under control in about an hour, the fire department said.

The cause of the fire is under investigation. **ANNA SANDERS**

City government

Mark-Viverito declares victory in speaker's race

East Harlem Councilwoman Melissa Mark-Viverito, a progressive who endorsed Mayor-elect Bill de Blasio, has said she has enough votes to be the next council speaker. She said on Wednesday night she has the endorsements of 30 council members.

Upper East Side Councilman Dan Garodnick was also a top contender for the position according to several reports.

ANNA SANDERS

Blind man able to keep dog

The blind man who fell onto the subway tracks at 125th Street in Manhattan on Tuesday will get to keep his seeing-eye dog after all.

Cecil Williams, 61, was heartbroken because 11-year-old Orlando is "retiring" in January from being an official guide dog, and Williams' insurance reportedly would not cover the cost of a

non-working dog.

But thanks to some donations from strangers, Williams will be able to afford keeping Orlando after all.

"Everyone is showing their humanity and peace and goodwill at this time," a tearful Williams said from his hospital bed on Wednesday.

Unable to hold back tears, Williams explained

Best friend

"Loyalty, that's a thing about dogs. You can come home anytime and they're glad to see you. Not like your wife or your children."

Cecil Williams

how important Orlando is to him.

He's my best buddy, he's my pal," Williams said. "He takes me on the trains, he takes me on the buses, he takes me everywhere I need to go."

When Williams fell, Orlando stayed with him, licking his face.

"He was there for me," Williams said.

DANIELLE TCHOLAKIAN

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PHILOSOPHY

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METRO

In Brooklyn

Minor injuries
reported in
multi-car
pileup

Several people suffered minor injuries following a multi-car pileup on the Gowanus Expressway on Tuesday.

The crashes, involving up to 30 vehicles, occurred near Sixth

Avenue in Bay Ridge about 8:20 p.m., the FDNY said.

Nine people were hurt. No injuries were life-threatening.

Officials did not say whether icy roads were a factor in the accident, but the National Weather Service issued black ice advisories on Wednesday morning.

LAURA SHIN

De Blasio names his new budget director

Money man.

Dean Fuleihan is a veteran of Albany and the New York political scene.

As his signature proposal — raising taxes to fund universal prekindergarten — faces potential opposition in Albany, Mayor-Elect Bill de Blasio tapped a legislative veteran to construct his budget.

Incoming Budget Director Dean Fuleihan has served as the main fiscal and policy advisor for the State Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, leadership in the Assembly and the majority conference.

In his most-recent post, Fuleihan was an executive vice president



Bill de Blasio said Fuleihan has always stood his ground when faced with hard choices. / @NYCTransition

Heading into battle

This will be a fair, responsible and progressive budget that takes economic inequality in our city head-on." Dean Fuleihan

for strategic initiatives at SUNY College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering.

Fuleihan acknowledged that the city faces a "daunting fiscal landscape" but that the administration would still focus on its priorities.

"We are going to con-

front inequality with critical investments in CUNY and other engines for the middle class. We are going to put new energy behind affordable housing and early education," Fuleihan said.

ANNA SANDER and
DANIELLE TCHOLAKIAN

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Thursday, December 19, 2013

NEW YORK

6



A total of 1,775,703 oxycodone pills were prescribed over four years. / GETTY IMAGES

Doctor and ship workers busted in SI

Staten Island.

A 20-month investigation exposed a prescription painkiller scheme.

Four longshoremen, a laborer, a pharmacist, a chiropractor and a pain management doctor have been arrested and indicted in Staten Island.

The arrests came at the culmination of a 20-month-long investigation involving various law enforcement agencies. "Operation Shore Thing" exposed a scheme involving medical professionals on Staten Island illegally providing longshoremen with prescription pain medication.

The longshoremen were showing up to work high, according to Staten Island District Attorney Dan Donovan.

"My father worked as a longshoreman, so I grew up knowing the dangers of the job," Donovan said.

"I can't imagine how those risks are multiplied when people show up to work high on narcotics."

The doctor in the case prescribed a mind-blow-

Bad trip

Four longshoremen were arrested: Nicholas Tornabene, 28; Rosario Savastano, 28; Christopher Galasso, 29; and Joseph Favuzza, 29.

• Laborer Charles

Tornabene, 28, was also arrested.

• The longshoremen apparently evaded drug tests at work using things like prosthetics and synthetic urine.

Despicable

"This case is another example of criminals perpetuating and exploiting addiction, at great risk to the public's safety. It is especially despicable when licensed medical practitioners put profit over others' welfare."

Police Commissioner Ray Kelly

ing 1,775,703 oxycodone pills over four years, Donovan said. Laid out side-by-side, that number of pills would span 7 miles.

Donovan said the case shows the need for a national database to track prescription drugs.

The doctors also were found guilty of insurance fraud.

Chiropractor Thomas Dinardo, 44, and doctor Mihir Bhatt, 47, would schedule unnecessary medical treatments like MRIs and chiropractic treatment and bill insurance companies like Blue Cross Blue Shield and Cigna for services he did not render.

They would direct their patients to fill prescriptions with Rita Patel, 48, at Shayona Pharmacy in New Jersey.

Patel also would overcharge people, turning an extra profit for herself.

Staten Island has been struggling with prescription painkiller abuse for some time now.

Last year, New Yorkers died from painkiller overdoses in Staten Island at three times the rate of anywhere else in the city.



DANIELLE TCHOLAKIAN
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Mayor reflects on New York, past and future



Mayor Michael Bloomberg said pension reform was a major challenge for the next mayor. / GETTY IMAGES

Closing time.

Bloomberg waxed philosophical about the city that he ran for 12 years in his last major speech.

In his final major address in office, Mayor Michael Bloomberg reflected on the past, present and future of New York City.

When the mayor moved to New York in 1966, he said politicians believed the city would continue to thrive even if it was "dysfunctional and dystopian."

"As soon as you begin to take success for granted,

you begin to fail," Bloomberg said during an Economic Club of New York lunch Wednesday.

Throughout his remarks, the mayor noted successful projects and initiatives that he believes helped make the city a global leader, such as CitiBike and lifting zoning restrictions.

"The common denominator in all of these actions is a commitment to investing in the future. When city governments fail to look ahead, cities fail," he said.

Bloomberg urged Mayor-Elect Bill de Blasio to avoid a "labor-electoral complex" when negotiating open contracts with unions by focusing on the

Quoted

"I will walk out of office knowing that —whether you agreed or disagreed with me — I always made decisions based on the merits."

Mayor Bloomberg

economy instead of future elections.

"I'm hopeful that the next administration will succeed — I plan to live here for the rest of my life," the mayor said.

ANNA SANDERS
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In Queens

Man robs business with arson threat

A robber threatened an employee at a business in Queens with a lighter on Sunday, police said.

The suspect barged into ATN Financial Services at 2:30 a.m., cops said. He squirted lighter fluid inside and threatened to start a fire. The employee handed over cash and the suspect fled. **DANIELLE TCHOLAKIAN**

Assault. Park Slope woman raped in home

Police are searching for a man they say raped a 20-year-old woman inside her Brooklyn apartment last month.

The attack occurred in the vicinity of Prospect Park West and Union Street in Park Slope, cops said. The suspect forced his way into the victim's home at about 8 p.m. on Nov. 11 and sexually assaulted her.

According to NYPD statistics, there have been eight rapes report-



The suspect / NYPD

ed this year through Dec. 8, up from three during the same period in 2012.

LAURA SHIN

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South China Sea

China confirms near miss with US warship

China on Wednesday confirmed an incident between a Chinese naval vessel and a U.S. warship in the South China Sea, after Washington said a U.S. guided missile cruiser had avoided a collision with a Chinese

warship maneuvering nearby.

China's Defense Ministry said the Chinese naval vessel was conducting "normal patrols" when the two vessels "met."

"During the encounter, the Chinese naval vessel properly handled it in accordance with strict protocol," the ministry said on its website (www.mod.gov.cn) **REUTERS**

Done deal

Senate passes budget deal, focus shifts to spending

The U.S. Senate passed a two-year budget deal on Wednesday to ease automatic spending cuts and reduce the risk of a government shutdown, but fights were breaking out over how to imple-

ment the budget pact.

By a vote of 64-36, the Senate sent the measure to President Barack Obama to be signed into law, a big step for a divided Congress that has failed to agree on a budget since 2009.

The deal restores overall fiscal 2014 spending levels for government agencies to \$1.012 trillion. **REUTERS**

White House review panel proposes curbs to some key NSA programs



Bad Aibling Station, a monitoring base of the U.S. intelligence organization NSA (National Security Agency) in Bad Aibling, Bavaria, Germany. / GETTY IMAGES

Panel. They proposed five tests that should be met before surveillance against foreign leaders.

order from the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court to search the data.

"We don't see the need for the government to be retaining that data," said Richard Clarke, a member of the panel and a former White House counterterrorism advisor.

Across U.S. surveillance programs more broadly, "we tend to believe there should be further judicial oversight than there has been," Clarke said.

NSA officials have staunchly defended the bulk metadata program, saying it is essential to "connect the dots" between terrorist plotters overseas and co-conspirators inside the United States. **REUTERS**

A White House-appointed panel on Wednesday proposed curbs on some key National Security Agency surveillance operations, recommending limits on a program to collect records of billions of telephone calls and new tests before Washington spies on foreign leaders.

Among the panel's proposals, made in the wake of revelations by former NSA contractor Edward Snowden, the most contentious may be its recommendation that the eavesdropping agency halt collection of the phone call records, known as "metadata."

Instead, it said, those records should be held by telecommunications providers or a private third party. In a further limitation, the U.S. government would need an

Recommendations

46

It remains to be seen, however, how many of the panel's 46 recommendations will be accepted by President Barack Obama and the U.S. Congress. The panel's five members met with Obama at the White House on Wednesday.

Quoted

"We tend to believe there should be further judicial oversight than there has been."

Clarke

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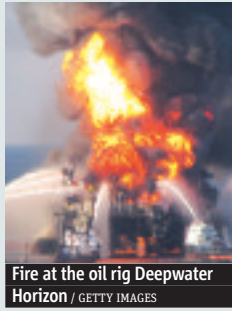
Obstructing justice

Ex-BP engineer found guilty in Gulf of Mexico spill case

An engineer charged in connection with the 2010 BP oil well blowout in the Gulf of Mexico was found guilty of one count of obstructing justice by a federal jury on Wednesday, officials said.

Kurt Mix, 52, now a former BP employee, had faced two counts of obstruction for deleting hundreds of messages he exchanged with his supervisor and a contractor in the weeks after the spill.

He was part of a team that scrambled to plug the Macondo well and figure out how much oil was leaking in what be-



Fire at the oil rig Deepwater Horizon / GETTY IMAGES

came the worst offshore environmental disaster in U.S. history.

During the two-week trial, government lawyers painted Mix as a loyal member of the drilling team who tried to shield BP from blame by deleting text and voice messages that may have proven BP lied about how much oil was escaping into the gulf. **REUTERS**

Facebook, Zuckerberg and banks must face IPO lawsuit: Judge



Quoted

"We continue to believe this suit lacks merit and look forward to a full airing of the facts."

Facebook said in a statement

Facebook Founder and CEO Mark Zuckerberg is sued. / GETTY IMAGES

Wealth. Forbes magazine said Zuckerberg was worth \$19 billion in September.

misleadingly represented that this revenue cut was merely possible when, in fact, it had already materialized," Sweet wrote in his 83-page decision. "Plaintiffs have sufficiently pleaded material misrepresentation(s) that could have and did mislead investors regarding the company's future and current revenues."

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg and dozens of banks will face a lawsuit accusing the social media company of misleading investors about its health before its \$16 billion initial public offering, a federal judge said.

In a decision made public on Wednesday, U.S. District Judge Robert Sweet in Manhattan said investors could pursue claims that Facebook should have prior to its May 2012 IPO disclosed internal projections on how increased mobile usage and product decisions might reduce future revenue.

"The company's purported risk warnings

Facebook went public at \$38 per share. The Menlo Park, California-based company's share price rose as high as \$45 on May 18, 2012, its first day of trading, but quickly fell below the offering price and stayed there for more than a year.

Investors including pension funds in Arkansas, California and North Carolina claimed that Facebook negligently concealed material information from its IPO registration statement that it had provided to its underwriters' analysts.

REUTERS

BBM

BlackBerry Messenger to come pre-installed on LG phones

BlackBerry Ltd. said on Wednesday that its popular messaging platform BlackBerry Messenger will soon be coming pre-installed on LG Electronics Inc.

smartphones.

Waterloo, Ontario-based BlackBerry said the G Pro Lite, an Android-based smartphone, will be the first LG device to offer BBM out-of-the-box.

The announcement comes less than two months after BlackBerry began to roll out its BBM service to users of Android and iPhone devices. **REUTERS**

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Mosquito-borne virus. Officials issue travel advisory on St. Martin

U.S. health officials issued an advisory on Wednesday about travel to the Caribbean island of St. Martin due to concerns about a mosquito-borne virus.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or CDC, said in a statement it was tracking reports of the chikungunya virus, which has surfaced among some residents of the French side of St. Martin.

An infection from the virus is rarely fatal, the CDC said. Symptoms include a rash, headaches, joint and muscle pains. Infected patients often recover within a week, although joint pain can last longer.

The CDC said it was the first time the virus has been reported among non-travelers in the Western Hemisphere. **REUTERS**

More shouting

Alleged 9/11 conspirator kicked out of hearing again

An accused conspirator in the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on New York City and Washington, D.C., was for the second day in a row expelled

from a courtroom at the Guantanamo Bay war crimes tribunal on Wednesday for being disruptive.

"I have to leave. I want to leave," Ramzi Binalshibh, one of five defendants in the death-penalty case, exclaimed at the start of the pre-trial hearing. **REUTERS**

Obesity may disturb bone growth during teen years



The researchers compared the changes in lean mass and fat percentages across the different weight groups and found that lean mass stayed about the same while body fat percentage went up as weight went up. / GETTY IMAGES

Researcher. The new study involved 377 adolescents aged 10 to 19 years old.

Obese teens might not develop sufficient bone mass relative to their body weight, according to a new study from Brazil.

Both body fat and lean body mass have an impact on bone growth, but it's not clear if the bones of the heaviest teens are strong enough for their weight — and that could have

Quoted

30%

"The study was conducted with Brazilian adolescents where the prevalence of overweight/obesity is around 30 percent, similar to the American teenager population," Dr. Tamara Goldberg wrote in an email.

long- and short-term consequences.

Bone mineral acquisition "rises exponentially in both genders" during the growth spurt following puberty, an important time period, the researchers wrote in the journal Nutrition.

Previous studies examining whether obesity interferes with bone development have shown conflicting results: Some indicate bone density is fine when compared just to the adolescent's lean mass (muscle), but others have suggested bone density doesn't increase enough to support the heavier weight of obese teens, potentially putting them at increased risk for bone fractures.

Goldberg, a physician and professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the Botucatu School of Medicine of Sao Paulo State University, worked on the new study. **REUTERS**

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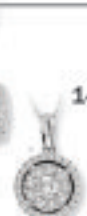


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collector convicted of
selling counterfeits

Among his victims was the billionaire industrialist William Koch, who has spent years pursuing those who sold him counterfeit wines and testified against Kurniawan last week. / GETTY IMAGES

Taste. He became known for a delicate palate, seemingly able to identify even the rarest vintages.

A U.S. jury on Wednesday convicted an Indonesian man of selling counterfeit wine to unsuspecting collectors, a dramatic fall from grace for a man once considered one of the top five wine collectors in the world.

Rudy Kurniawan, 37, sat stone-faced and still as the guilty verdict was read and

showed no reaction even as the jurors were asked to confirm their guilty finding one at a time. He faces up to 40 years in prison at sentencing, which was scheduled for April 24.

Kurniawan operated what prosecutors called a fake wine factory out of his home in California, obtaining empty rare bottles, printing fake labels and spending thousands on traditional French wax to produce hundreds of counterfeit bottles he sold to finance an extravagant lifestyle.

Kurniawan's defense lawyer, Jerome Mooney, has said his client had un-

Defrauding

\$3M

After deliberating for only a few hours, the jury found Rudy Kurniawan, 37, guilty of one count of mail fraud related to counterfeiting wine and one count of wire fraud for defrauding a loan company on a \$3 million loan.

knowingly acquired counterfeit wines and was being made a scapegoat for a pervasive problem. Mooney argued that Kurniawan was printing labels and using wax in an effort to "fix up" bottles he had purchased in good faith. **REUTERS**

Hurting the poor

US judge halts
cell phone
service fee for
the poor in Ga.

A federal judge has blocked Georgia's plan to charge low-income residents \$5 per month for cell phone service that currently is provided free of charge.

The fee was set to take effect on Jan. 31 and would have made Georgia the only U.S. state to charge for the federally subsidized phone service.

"The public interest tilts in favor of providing telephone services to low-income households that otherwise would be unable to afford mobile phones," U.S. District Court Judge Richard Story wrote on Tuesday in a temporary injunction that stops the new fee while a court challenge is pending. **REUTERS**

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About 14 million households participate in the Lifeline phone program nationally, according to the Universal Service Administrative Co., the nonprofit organization that administers the program.

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Response. India trims
perks for US staff over
diplomat's NY arrest

Protesters at the U.S. embassy in New Delhi, India. / GETTY IMAGES

Secretary of State John Kerry called a top Indian official and voiced regret about the case of an Indian diplomat strip-searched after her arrest last week in New York on charges including visa fraud, the State Department said.

Kerry's call to Indian National Security Adviser Shivshankar Menon, disclosed by the U.S. State Department, aimed to defuse

a diplomatic crisis sparked by the Dec. 12 arrest of Indian diplomat Devyani Khobragade on charges of visa fraud and underpaying her nanny.

The Indian government took retaliatory measures that included a revision of work conditions of Indian nationals employed at U.S. consulates as well as a freeze on the import of duty-free alcohol. **REUTERS**

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Bethlehem braces for naked Christmas

Radical group.

Femen says cultural sensitivities "don't deserve our respect."

Thousands of visitors flock to Bethlehem each Christmas to celebrate in the birthplace of Jesus Christ. But this year, the holy city will receive unwelcome guests as radical feminist group Femen plans to stage a controversial protest.

Activists have indicated a topless demonstration will take place on Christmas Eve in the garden of the Church of the Nativity, the site of Christ's birth, according to the Christian faith. This would coincide with the peak of celebrations when up to 100,000 travel to the city.

Femen founder Inna Shevchenko would not confirm the action but said, "Bethlehem can be a place for us to attack. This city can see the rebellious naked breasts of Femen."

Shevchenko rejected any obligation to respect cultural sensitivities in the



Christian pilgrims pray at the Grotto in the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, West Bank. / GETTY IMAGES

Social media snark

"Maybe the aim of the protest is to unite Palestinians and Israelis against them."

One user posted online

deeply religious city. "We respect our naked war against oppression, and if there are cultures that are not able to coexist with that idea [it] means those cultures are anti-humanist and don't deserve respect from us."

The Ukrainian group has enjoyed a recent surge, with a new branch estab-

lished in Israel this year and a series of high-profile stunts, including a live TV attack on global football authority FIFA. Femen has also acted to distance itself from Victor Svyatski, a founding member filmed making sexist remarks.

The threat is being taken seriously by Bethlehem authorities and its mayor Vera Baboun. "This cannot happen in the birthplace of Jesus," a Baboun spokesperson said. "It would destroy the spirit of Christmas, and we are working with intelligence and security to prevent their action."



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Rabbinical ruling

Mom appeals ruling she must circumcise son

An Israeli woman appealed to the Supreme Court on Wednesday against a rabbinical ruling that ordered her to

circumcise her 1-year-old son, the Justice Ministry said, in the first case of its kind. There is no law in Israel making circumcision obligatory for Jews, but a rabbinical court that was presiding over the woman's divorce case ruled last month that she

must fulfill her husband's wish in the matter. It fined her 500 shekels (\$142) a day until she did so. Rabbinical courts in Israel have jurisdiction over matters of marriage and divorce and operate under the Justice Ministry. **REUTERS**

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ADMIT ONE

Metro rounds up what's in cinemas this week.



2 'Walking with Dinosaurs' Can't wait for the fourth "Jurassic Park" movie directed by the guy who made the forgettable indie rom-com "Safety Not Guaranteed"? Enjoy this movie version of the long-running show, which now has more John Leguizamo.

3 'Her' After collaborations (with Charlie Kaufman and Dave Eggers), Spike Jonze goes solo, telling the story of a lonely divorcee (Joaquin Phoenix) living in the near future, who falls in love with his new, self-aware operating system (voice of ScarJo). Amy Adams and Olivia Wilde co-star.

4 'The Past' Asghar Farhadi's Iranian drama "A Separation" was, deservedly, a ridiculously huge success. His follow-up takes him to France and bigger stars (Berenice Bejo, "A Prophet"'s Tahar Ramin), who play a couple dealing with the latter's comatose wife.



Will Ferrell (with sword) and Steve Carell (with trident) prepare for battle in "Anchorman 2." / GEMMA LAMANA

Must-see

'Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues'

1 Will Ferrell and Adam McKay should probably really be doing a second "Step Brothers," but there's no shame in wanting more Ron Burgundy and company, even if the first has become tragically over-quoted.

5 'All the Light in the Sky' Prolific "mumblecore" director Joe Swanberg, late of "Drinking Buddies," gives the excellent Jane Adams ("Hung") her own film. She plays an aging, sometimes-employed, single actress who entertains a visit from her niece (Sophia Takal).

6 'The Selfish Giant' British filmmaker Clio Barnard, who made the excellent, inventive

documentary "The Arbor," returns with this look at two young boys who get involved in a scrap metal business.

7 'The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug'

Peter Jackson's hubristically super-sized version of J.R.R. Tolkien's first, slender trip to Middle Earth enters its second three-hour installment, with Martin Freeman's hairy-footed adventurer fighting spiders, Orcs and a great big dragon.

8 'American Hustle'

The once "difficult" David O. Russell is on his third awards-gobbling romp in a row, with an absurdly powerful cast — a fat, toupeed Christian Bale and a dolled-up Jennifer Lawrence, for starters — filling out this telling of the larger-than-life Abscam FBI operation of the '70s.



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CULTURE



Twitter feed

We check in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Judd Apatow stands by his advertising campaign, Olivia Wilde is out of control and Mark Duplass wants you to dress for the season.

@JuddApatow: When someone says there was too much marketing of Anchorman 2 I usually say 'you go up against The Hobbit without marketing. FU grandma!'

@oliviawilde: I broke into @jayleno's dressing room and stole one of his jackets for my fetus.

@MarkDuplass: If you don't own an itchy, mothball-infested Holiday ski sweater with pie and alcohol stains on it, you're just doing it wrong.

Pippa Middleton is engaged

Congrats to our favorite princess-adjacent socialite: Pippa Middleton's banker boyfriend finally put a ring on it.

Nico Jackson reportedly popped the question in early December while the pair were on a romantic trip to the Oberoi Amarvilas resort in India.

"It was exactly how he planned it," a source tells Us Weekly. "Very romantic and grand!"

Middleton, 30, has been dating Jackson, 36, for about 15 months. Though their wedding is unlikely to be as grand as her sister Kate's (I don't think they loan out Westminster Abbey to bankers), she's sure to have a glittering affair, since we already know that she can rock the heck

out of a white dress — or at least her booty can.



ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

A mad little man for Christmas

January Jones' son, Xander Dane Jones, rocks a rad Christmas top while running around on the streets of L.A. on Tuesday.

Jordan, Willis expecting (but not together)

Let's hear it for the old guys!

NBA legend Michael Jordan is reportedly expecting twin girls with his new wife Yvette Prieto. Jordan, 50, married Prieto, 35, in April in front of



1,500 of their closest friends in Palm Beach, Fla.

Meanwhile, Bruce Willis, 58, is reportedly set to be a father once again, with wife Emma Heming, 35, expecting the couple's second child, according

to Us Weekly. Willis and Heming are also parents to 1-year-old daughter Mabel, while Willis also has three daughters — Rumer, Scout and Tallulah — with ex-wife Demi Moore.

Talking point

Gosling and Mendes are on the outs

The love between extraordinarily attractive couple Ryan Gosling and Eva Mendes is on the skids, if you are to believe Radar Online.

"There was a realization before Thanksgiving that they took things way too fast and were rushing toward a marriage that neither of them particularly needed," a source told the site.

THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson takes on the world of gossip.

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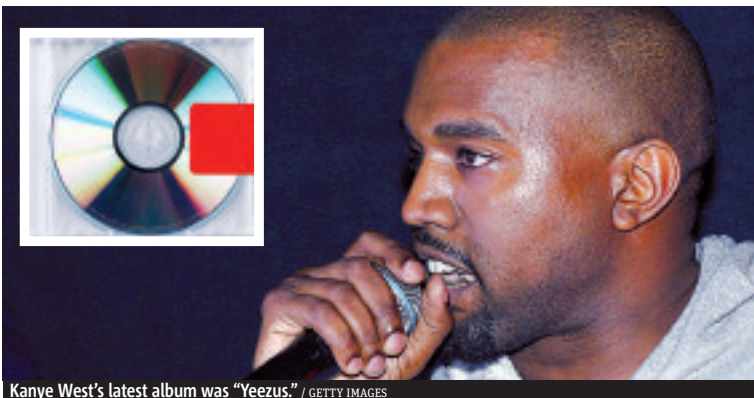
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Kanye West's latest album was "Yeezus." / GETTY IMAGES

Craving a different

Music. In a year dominated by twerk, Metro staffers sift through all of the sonic hits and misses to find the best jams of the year.

When Lorde sings "we crave a different kind of buzz" in her 2013 hit, "Royals," the 17-year-old from New Zealand is talking about how unlikely it is that she'll ever be in the company of the artists that she's actually sharing space with in our best-of list. But as a whole, the music industry in 2013 has been craving a different kind of buzz.

It's possible that 2013 will be remembered as the year that major musicians released albums with little or no lead-up. We're kind of pulling for that because we wrote a cover story on the trend in June, after Kanye West, David Bowie and Jay Z had put out albums that hardly any fans knew they were even working on. The year saw additional releases in this fashion from the Pixies (after more than two decades without releasing any new material) and, most recently and spectacularly, Beyoncé. Our constantly decreasing collective attention span demands this instant gratification approach, and the artists are learning that they don't need the labels to do a big promotional lead-up to get their fans excited.

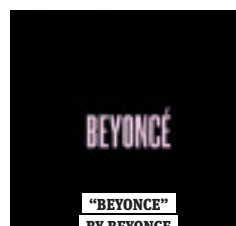
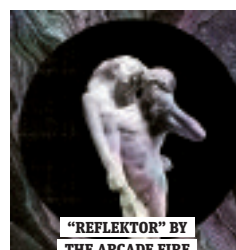
But this was only part of the music landscape in 2013. We continued to see good-girl-gone-bad as a marketable commodity with Miley Cyrus' effort to take a wrecking ball to her previous Disney image. We had bad dudes trying to pick up the aforementioned bad girls in the two mega-hits that Pharrell Williams had a hand in (Daft Punk's "Get Lucky" and Robin Thicke's "Blurred Lines"). And we had reliably great artists perfecting their craft and continuing to take their sounds in new and weirder directions; Kanye West, Beyoncé, Vampire Weekend, Arcade Fire and Phoenix all deserve credit for pushing their sounds out of their comfort zones.

And then there was staff favorite Lorde, whose melodic pop and humble approach seems to fly in the face of all of this.

Music editor's picks

- 1 "Yeezus" by Kanye West
- 2 "Modern Vampires of the City" Vampire Weekend
- 3 "Reflektor" by The Arcade Fire
- 4 "Pure Heroine" by Lorde
- 5 "Bankrupt" by Phoenix

Honorable mention:
"Beyoncé" by Beyoncé



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PAT
HEALY
pat.healy@metro.us

kind of buzz in 2013

What was interesting about this list was how much diversity there was beyond the Top 5. There were a few favorite albums chosen by only one person ("My Bloody Valentine" and "ASAP Rocky"), and a lot of people seemed to reluctantly put "Days Are Gone" by Haim as their last choice. **PAT HEALY**

I would pay a monthly subscription to never hear "Get Lucky" again. But oh yay, our top songs of the year are 80 percent misogynistic. **T. MICHELLE MURPHY**

I stand behind "ASAP Rocky." **RACHEL VIGODA**

Okay, I've got my calculator and my Misogyny Detector app open, and I can't figure out how you'd come to the conclusion that our song picks are 80 percent misogynistic. The only one that my MD app buzzes slightly on is "Blurred Lines." And so I take out the calculator, and that would only be 20 percent misogynistic. Or were you doing it in the same way they figure out fat in ground beef: 80 percent lean? **PH**

Can I throw down my save? Don't laugh, but I really think Miley's "Bangerz" deserves a spot on the list. It's got slick beats, her voice sounds surprisingly good and the songs are still in my head months later. I don't get why she feels she needs to rely on twerking/tongue-wagging to get attention — her music is pretty good on its own. **MEREDITH ENGEL**

Um, sorry. Lorde has more talent in her one year as a musician than Miley has in her seven years on the scene. Her lyrics about how



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Staff picks

- 1 "Yeezus" by Kanye West
- 2 "Random Access Memories" by Daft Punk
- 3 "Pure Heroine" by Lorde
- 4 TIE: "Reflektor" by The Arcade Fire and "Modern Vampires of the City" Vampire Weekend
- 5 "Bankrupt" by Phoenix

Staff saves: "Bangerz" by Miley Cyrus and "Beyonce" by Beyonce

cool it is to not be cool and growing up in a nothing city are way more relatable than doing coke in the bathroom and twerking at a party. **EMILY LAURENCE**

It's also weird that Lorde is

so young. So technically she's like still in her Hannah Montana phase, age-wise, eh? **PH**

I'd suggest you listen to Haim's "Days Are Gone." It's the only album that really excited me this year. **DOROTHY ROBINSON**

The Beyonce album snuck in last minute and is a list game-changer for me. If you need me I'll be the one in front of the mirror trying to replicate all her moves. **TINA CHADHA**

I do want to officially invoke a save for Beyonce's self-titled album. It's a masterpiece! Yes, I realize that this could cause me more editing hassle in the 11th hour, but ... it's so different from her previous albums! **PH**

Suckerrrrrr. We should punish her (I know, she'll be so upset) for her sneak-attack album launch by ignoring it. **ALEXANDRA CAVALLO**



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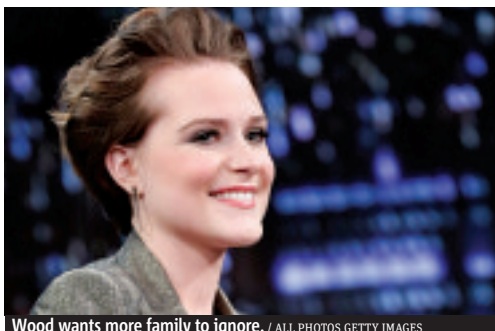
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On their wish list

Evan Rachel Wood



Wood wants more family to ignore. / ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

"Have you heard of 23andMe? It's such a great gift. So many people are going to do this for Christmas, I swear. It's this DNA thing. It's kind of gross: You spit in a tube — it comes in this package — and you send it in the mail. Then, they tell you what your ancestry is, what drugs you're allergic to, what illnesses you're susceptible to. And if you register, it will tell you when it finds a relative. It will say, 'We found someone who has DNA that matches yours and they might be your fifth cousin. Do you want to connect?' And you say 'No.'"

Santa baby. These four stylish celebs tell us what they would like under the tree this year.

Carey Mulligan

"I'd like really nice, fancy Christmas decorations, because I wanted to go and spend all my money on really beautiful decorations, and I wasn't allowed. So I'd love someone to buy me Christmas decorations."



CAREY MULLIGAN

Alexa Chung

Her wish list

"I always need socks. I never have enough socks. I would love a pair of homemade socks, like knitted men's socks. Oh, and I want the Inez van Lamsweerde and Vinoodh Matadin photo book."

Favorite kinds of gifts

"I love gifts that mean something. My friend Jenny gave me an antique ring the other day for my birthday, and I just really like when friends give you something you can keep on you, that reminds you of them. And a couple of friends in England got me a dinosaur badge. Lots of people had spent like all this money on me and that was my favorite thing — this f—ing dinosaur badge that I love."

The best gift she's ever gotten

A piano. I took lessons as a child.



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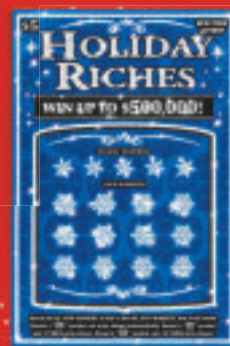
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Office gift-giving etiquette



Office mates. Liven up their cubicle with tips from LinkedIn's career expert Nicole Williams.

As if shopping for your family weren't hard enough, gift-giving in the workplace can be yet another tricky dilemma. How do you give your boss a little something without looking like a brown-noser? What kind of Secret Santa gift do you get that guy from accounting that you've never spoken to? Nicole Williams, LinkedIn's career expert, weighs in on what's appropriate for under the office tree.

Should you give a gift to your boss?

"Personally, I think it's wise to give your boss something around the holidays," Williams tells us. "Giving a gift acts as a 'thank you' for their mentorship and guidance throughout the year. A heartfelt handwritten note is often the best gift. Gift cards, bath sets, knick-knacks often get re-gifted

or forgotten. However, I have saved several handwritten notes I've received from employees over the years."

If you are a manager, should you give something to your team or department?

"If your team went above and beyond this year — give them a treat," she recommends. "Check in with your supervisor to see if there is any money in the budget for something like this. If not, see if you can pool your resources and plan a pizza party for the office or tab at the local watering hole. Or, invest in an office ping-pong table."

If you are giving to one or two co-workers, should you really give something to the whole team?

"You shouldn't feel obligated to get a gift for everyone you work with. If you did that, you'd go broke come New Year's." Williams also has advice on when to present your colleagues with presents. "Give these gifts away from the office. No need to rub your other co-worker's nose in your presents," she says.

Advice

Perfect gift for the boss

"The gift has to say so much: 'Thank you,' 'Please give me a raise,' 'I'm classy yet poor,'" says Williams. "It has to be personal, but not too personal. Gifting your boss something that makes his

or her life easier is often the best gift."

She suggests a set of adjustable collar stays by Swiss Stays for a male. For a female supervisor, she likes the Miniemergency Kit by Pinch Provisions — "a chic little emergency beauty kit to keep at her desk."

Our picks

Three co-worker approved gifts

1 Chocolates: Perfect for the 4 p.m. crash. Divine Milk Chocolate with Spiced Cookies, \$6.99, www.divinechocolate.com

2 Plant: This is the best cubemate they'll have. Potted 4" succulent, \$10.95, www.crateandbarrel.com

3 Humidifier: They spend most of their time at work.

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TINA CHADHA
tina.chadha@metro.us

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Kids. The holidays are really about their reaction when opening gifts. These are sure to buy you at least an hour of uninterrupted glee.



Gifts for kids

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2 Someone get the camera! Gap Intarsia heart sweater one-piece, \$34.95, www.gap.com

3 Not only is this Fair Isle set by PACT adorable, but it's completely eco-friendly, too, down to the wind-energy-powered factory it was packaged in. With every purchase, PACT can help low-income entrepreneurs. Unisex cozy set, \$34, www.wearpact.com

4 These color-coded "Bits" modules snap together to

create simple circuits for your budding scientist. Little Bits Base Kit, \$99, www.littlebits.cc

5 Kaleidoscopes never get old. \$5.49, www.restorationhardware.com

6 Help them train for their Instagram habit. Discovery Kids USB Compatible Digital Camera, \$29.99, www.bedbathandbeyond.com

7 Expect them to wear these in public at all times. Spectacular Spectacles, \$9.95, www.landofnod.com
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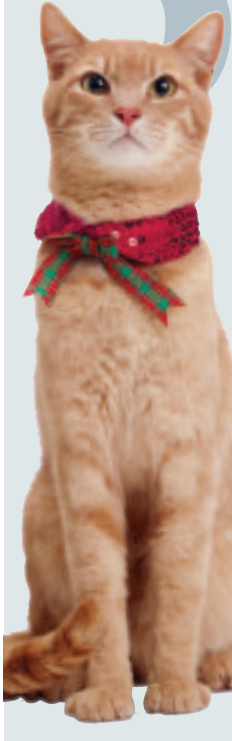
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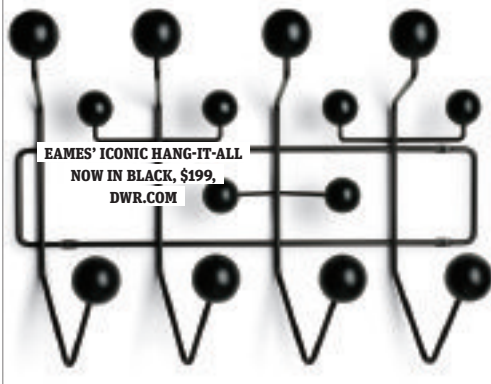
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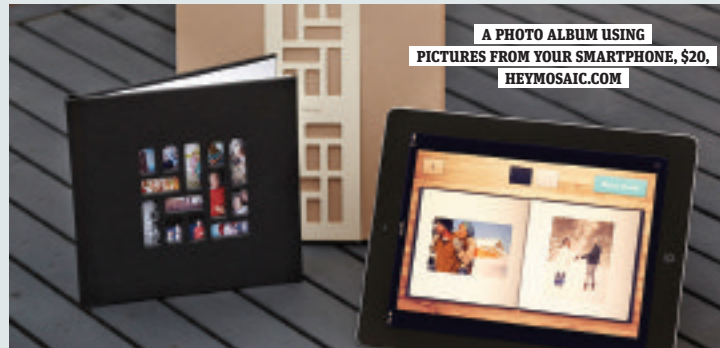


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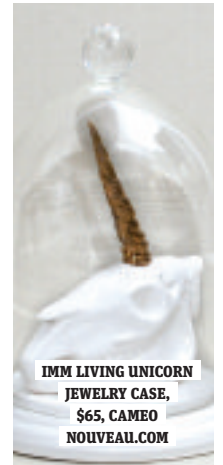
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'TIS THE SEASON FOR BREAKING HEARTS

I'm breaking up with my boy. Is there any way to break up before or around the holidays that's not, well, terrible?

Oh, damn, damn, damn! I feel for you — this happens a lot. I know at least two reasons people commonly throw up deuces at their partner during the holidays. First, the year's end often triggers self-reflection. There is no room for an old, non-functioning relationship in your vision of what the upcoming year will bring.

Second, ruminating over introducing your lover to family festivities can signal a big step complete with the big red bow that is the interference of nosy, meddling relatives.



See more at www.metro.us

There are songs about love and happiness piped into every store — but that doesn't mean you can't break up. / COLOURBOX

Your subconscious might gift you with a sudden realization: You would rather step out of the relationship than step it

up a notch. That's OK. You are a grown up. That means you are old enough to understand that actions have conse-

quences and, clearly, you do. Being a grown up, however, doesn't mean you have to do things you don't want to do. The holidays can be emotionally distressing, and it makes you not want to be the d— who dumped somebody on Christmas-anakwanza.

Heads up that in relationships with intimate partner violence, leaving can be very dangerous or deadly. Because you did not bring that up, I'll assume neither of you is abusing the other, and I'll save that guidance for a different column. You didn't tell me your gender, but my advice is the same whether you are a man or a woman:

Funky Brown Chick

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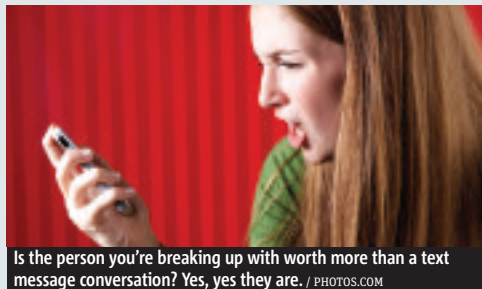
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Are you confused or frustrated in love or lust? Is there a thorny relationship question in your life that needs some expert attention? Funky Brown Chick is here to help, and she's not shy — so you don't have to be, either. Get honest, expert advice by emailing your queries to questions@funkybrownchick.com and let her wisdom address your life.

Tip #1

Leave on a positive rather than a negative

I do not care if you have balls or ovaries: treat whatever is in your pants (and in your heart) with some respect. That means the golden rule is in order: Break up unto others as you would have them break up unto you. You might not care if they broke up with you over



Is the person you're breaking up with worth more than a text message conversation? Yes, yes they are. / PHOTOS.COM

phone or text, because you already want out. But if you know that would hurt

them, have the cojones or ovaries to do it in person. In matters of the heart and

loins, I treat your lover the way you would want to be treated.

Relationships are like at-will employment. At any point, either person has the right to say that it's just not working for them anymore — there is no notice required. However, the rules are pretty much the same: It's customary to do it face to face, and, even if you hate their guts right now, be civil and generous when exiting.

Tip #2

Spend time apart

Here's a simple concept that will make the end-times of your relationship more bearable: You both need time to adjust to the

relationship's end. Pull away, pull back and give it a rest. While continuing to have sex is possible or welcome by one or both parties, it might be a bad idea if your ex is still checked

into the relationship and you are not. Delicious sex aside, there is a human being on the receiving end of your actions. At one point, presumably, you liked them. Don't be reckless.

Tip #3

Know pre-holiday and post-holiday breakup "rules" are bulls—.

'Tis never the season to tell someone you don't love them anymore. If the relationship has become unbearable and you feel like you are stringing the other person along, consider breaking it off

immediately. Don't use the holidays as an excuse. Birthdays, joint vacations, unexpected unemployment, a death in the family and other situations could present similar conundrums. If your ex gives you a hard time or asks why you didn't just wait until later, tell them you should both spend the holidays with people who want to be in your lives.



The only rule you really want to follow is the one that advises that you should be kind, generous and courteous during a breakup. COLOURBOX

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SD26

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212-265-5959

Reynard

80 Wythe Ave.
718-460-8004

Takashi

456 Hudson St.
212-414-2929

The Smith

1900 Broadway
212-496-5700

Loi

208 W. 70th St.
212-875-8600

What it's like to work on Christmas

Holidays. A chef invites us into his holiday madness.

While you're relaxing at home on Christmas (or with a glass of bubbly in hand while a waiter takes your order), it's easy to forget that for many in the service industry, Christmas isn't a vacation day.

Antonio Prontelli is the executive chef at Rock Center Cafe (20 W. 50th St., 212-332-7620). With its proximity to the Rockefeller Christmas tree and skating rink, plus Radio City Music Hall, the restaurant's business booms this time of year. We checked in with him to get a play-by-play of the nonstop action he'll face Dec. 25.

4:30 a.m. — I get up and wake my kids and nieces to unwrap presents — they are a little grumpy at this early hour but it's my chance to spend Christmas with them and open gifts. I have a strong cup of coffee and head out.

6:00 a.m. — The drive from Putnam Valley to the city takes about an hour and I arrive at Rock Center Café at 6 a.m. I spend the morning collecting the mise en place (ingredients set-up) we prepared the night before, bringing everything from storage up into the kitchen. Then I make a huge pot of coffee for myself and get everything staged and set for when my cooks come in.

8:00 a.m. — The a.m. cooks arrive. The team sets up their stations and I give the assignments for the first shift. Christmas Day is a prix-fixe menu but choices are abundant — everything from home-made pasta to petit filet.

10:00 a.m. — I meet with the staff to discuss any



With a backdrop like this, it's no wonder Rock Center Cafe is so busy on Christmas. / BART BARTLOW



Executive chef
Antonio Prontelli

VIPs coming. I go over the details of the menu, letting them know what we can do to accommodate guests, and what we can't do.

11:00 a.m. — Doors open and the organized chaos begins! The doors do not close until the last customer has left. Service goes straight through.

2:30 p.m. — The p.m. shift



The restaurant will serve about 1,000 people on Christmas, Prontelli says. / PHOTOS PATINA RESTAURANT GROUP

arrives. They have about an hour and a half to replenish the stations, get up to speed on assignments and prep for their shift.

At this point, we will have done 450-550 covers. Every seat in the house is full. The restaurant is in holiday swing, and it's hard not to be in the Christmas spirit.

3:00 p.m. — There is a

run up the stairs, chugging a few energy drinks and a few more espressos. I'm ready for the next round.

4:00 p.m. — My a.m. staff go home and the p.m. staff take over. Off we go again! Throughout the entire shift the door never closes.

9:00 p.m. — I'm still at work, running around and serving dinners. As long as I'm moving, I'm good. This is my 11th Christmas at Rock Center Cafe and it's an adrenaline rush from start to finish. However, once I stop, I crash. I'm on my 17th cup of coffee.

1:00 a.m. — The last customer finishes, and I head out. I drive home, pulling over to take a quick power nap. I arrive home at 2:30 a.m. and plop down next to the Christmas tree where I enjoy a nightcap before hitting the sack. Merry Christmas to all, and to all, a good night.

METRO

Quoted

"The last customer finishes, and I head out. I drive home, pulling over to take a quick power nap. I arrive home at 2:30 a.m. and plop down next to the Christmas tree where I enjoy a nightcap before hitting the sack. Merry Christmas to all, and to all, a good night." Prontelli

'It's important to feel connected to your food source'

Hot chef. Matt Lambert is growing and picking your dinner himself at the Musket Room.

Chef Matt Lambert grew up helping his grandmother and mom garden in his native New Zealand. He now brings his modern approach to the country's local flare to Nolita with his much-buzzed-about, Michelin-star-rated outpost, the Musket Room. True to form, it's got a functional garden out back.

Congrats on receiving the Michelin star! How did you celebrate?

Thank you! It was a huge honor. Earning a Michelin star is something I've been working toward my whole life, so to be recognized by them was really meaningful. We didn't do anything too over-the-top to celebrate, just gathered all of our friends over at the Musket Room to celebrate with some drinks.

Why did you pick Nolita to set up shop? Did you specifically want to be there?

Yes, I love Nolita, especially this space. Even before this restaurant space was even on the market, I really just had a special feeling about the spot. I love the neighborhood because it has a low-key, relaxed vibe for New York, which reminds me of where I'm from.

We heard you used Kickstarter to launch the restaurant. Why?

We used Kickstarter for additional funding. It's obviously hard for young people to open a restaurant, especially in Manhattan. That resource helped us open our doors. We're very thankful



What wine are you sipping these days?

I always love the Nobile wines from New Zealand. With the cold weather, I've been sipping the Nobile Icon Pinot Noir, which pairs really well with heartier dishes like lamb for the winter.

to everyone who helped out.

You grow herbs and pluck greens from the garden in the back of the restaurant. When did you start gardening?

The backyard is one of the best parts about the space, because we can grow some of our own produce. I used to help my grandmother and mother garden, so it's something I've done my whole life. I've been stung by many a stinging nettle in my day. It's important to feel connected to your food source. Being in New York, it's easy to forget where your food comes from when everything comes pre-packaged. Getting your hands dirty for fresh ingredients you've grown yourself is a great feeling.

What's the quintessential New Zealand meal? How would you describe the native cuisine?

New Zealand's cuisine is all about fresh, clean flavors. For me, I'd say fresh seafood is the best. I went fishing a lot growing up — New Zealand is an island, after all! Also, I think that the Pavlova is the quintessential New Zealand dessert. When I put the menu for The Musket Room together, I knew that was an essential dish.

What's your favorite thing to eat back home?

Mince and Cheese pie — you call that ground beef



Visit Lambert at The Musket Room (265 Elizabeth St., 212-219-0764). PROVIDED

here in the States — or a classic fish and chips.

How did you come up with the restaurant's name?

Basically, it's the connection to the time period in New Zealand during the Musket War. Apart from the obvious connotation of muskets, it's about the time when there was so much discovery and adventure going on. The Musket Room is a modern approach to the country's culinary past.

What culinary trends are you loving lately?

It's always changing, but right now I'm enjoying tacos. I was in Miami recently, where I went to Pubble's new taco spot, Taco Belly, and the food was incredible.

New Zealand cuisine is known to be meat-heavy. Can vegetarians get a nice meal at your place?

Absolutely! I always make sure that I have vegetarian options so that everyone can get a great meal. I have a Tofu Gnocchi as a main course that is actually vegan.



TINA CHADHA
tina.chadha@metro.us

Cocktail of the Week



Who needs scotch, anyway? / PROVIDED

The Burgundy

Milk may have been a bad choice, but this cocktail from Hornitos Tequila sure isn't. It's kind of a big deal, if you ask us. Celebrate the release of "Anchorman 2" this Friday with The Burgundy.

Hornitos The Burgundy

Ingredients:

1 ½ parts Hornitos Plata Tequila
½ part honey syrup
¼ part Mezcal
¾ part Sweet Vermouth
Orange twist

Method: Add ingredients to a mixing glass, stir and strain over fresh ice (large cubes preferred). Garnish with orange twist. METRO

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Harlem renaissance



Rice bowls from The Cecil (left) and skate from Minton's (right) are just two reasons we're loving the culinary scene uptown these days. / LUCY SCHAEFFER

Dining. Red Rooster and Sylvia's aren't the only cool restaurants in the 100s.

In a city as big as ours, every neighborhood seems to have its moment in the sun. We saw it with Boerum Hill, Bushwick, the Bowery — and now uptown. While downtown dwellers may balk at the idea of dining above 14th Street, the new crop of restaurants popping up in Harlem and Washington Heights are worth the trek and then some. The ever-

popular Red Rooster is still a shining star on Lenox Avenue, but it's gaining new neighbors seemingly every day, no doubt due to the popularity and ease of uptown living.

Red Rooster's chef/owner Marcus Samuelsson says a conversation with Sylvia Woods, of the legendary Harlem soul food spot Sylvia's, influenced his move uptown. "I met Sylvia during an event at Tavern on the Green and she told me I had no choice but to move to Harlem and open a restaurant there. I learned that you don't say no to Ms. Woods, and her advice proved to be the best decision I have ever made in my professional

career. Nothing beats the energy, the history and the vibrancy of this place."

At the recent Uptown Food Movement Panel at APT 78 in Washington Heights, local chefs discussed the ongoing shift taking place in upper Manhattan, including the surge of organic food markets and fine dining restaurants, and the overall diversification in the types and quality of food being offered. Pasteurization and farmers markets aren't usually the first things that come to mind when thinking of Washington Heights, but this panel signified that change is coming.

"I've seen this area change a lot and come a long way. I'd like to see more destination places to put us on the map, more farmers markets up here and more education for people who live here," Chef James "Mac" Moran, of Rusty Mackerel in Washington Heights, said at the event.

Chef Harold Villarosa of Fedora leads The Insurgo Project, a new initiative that aims to teach communities about farm-to-

Hey, neighbor

The Cecil and Minton's

The Cecil: 210 W. 118th St., Harlem, 212-866-1262
Minton's: 206 W. 118th St., Harlem, 212-243-2222
Former Time Warner CEO Richard Parsons and partner/chef Alexander Smalls recently opened two new restaurants in Harlem, conveniently next door to each other, each equally impressive. Minton's, located in the former Minton's Playhouse space that housed many a jazz great (Miles Davis, Charlie

Parker and Dizzy Gillespie, to name a few) is a supper club serving bar snacks, a la carte items and a prix-fixe option (\$90) with an upscale, low-country slant to the menu. At The Cecil, Smalls' menu concept is Afro-Asian-American (oxtail dumplings, duck fried noodles and deviled duck eggs are just some of the offerings) with Joseph "JJ" Johnson as chef de cuisine. Both here and at Minton's, the crowd is good-looking, the spirits are high and the vibe is decidedly upbeat.

table initiatives and basic cooking techniques. "The wave of change is coming," Villarosa said at the panel. "We gotta ride it."

Read on for our picks for where to eat in the 100s and above.

Rusty Mackerel

209 Pinehurst Ave., Washington Heights, 212-928-4888

Washington Heights native James "Mac" Moran was trained by the likes of David Waltuck (Chanterelle) and Todd English (Olives) but returned to his roots at Rusty Mackerel, where he makes the most of what's local, sustainable and available uptown. With a New American menu that changes daily (but the octopus brava is a mainstay and a must), Moran adds

his own twists to classics coming out of the restaurant's open kitchen.

Heights Tavern

3910 Broadway, Washington Heights, 212-740-5700

The formula that seems to be working well for Harlem Tavern — a solid mix of food, drinks and sports viewing — found its way slightly further uptown with Heights Tavern, which opened late this summer. Dublin-born chef Darren Pettigrew is at the helm in the kitchen, offering a Cajun-influenced food menu (think seafood gumbo and pecan-crusted catfish bites), plus craft beers and more than a dozen big HDTV screens set in a huge space (4,100 feet). Happy hour is every weekday and brunch is offered on weekends.

The Ellington

936 Amsterdam Ave., 212-222-4050

Technically this (nearly) one-year-old modern gastropub is on the Upper West Side, but it's found a home uptown. The creation of Glenda Sansone and Andrew Breslin, named for Duke Ellington himself, has plenty of comfort food offerings (nachos, crispy pork shanks, burgers, fish and chips) and cocktails from Allen Katz named for the legendary bandleader. The space is rustic-chic (whitewashed walls, tin ceilings) and seats about 60, giving it a warm, homey feel.

CINDY AUGUSTINE
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One more

The Park 112

2080 Frederick Douglass Blvd., Harlem, 646-524-6610

From former hip-hop exec Lewis Tucker (Bad Boy Records) comes the newest Harlem hot spot on the block, steps away from Central Park, set in a 2,000-foot space (take that, downtown). The Park 112 features an eclectic, globally inspired menu by



The Park 112's seafood stew
FRANCES JANISCH

West Indies native Chef Kingsley John (who trained under Marcus Samuelsson and Charlie Trotter) that includes brick chicken and carrot coconut soup. Sommelier Adam Hess crafted the wine list — a mix of familiar and lesser-known labels — many of which are dispensed from a self-serve wine machine (available for purchase in a 1-ounce "taste," a 3-ounce "glass" or a 6-ounce "carafe").

'A Charlie Brown Christmas'

Saturday, 2 p.m.
Carnegie Hall,
881 Seventh Ave.
\$200 (\$100 for children),
212-247-7800
www.carnegiehall.org
Steven Reineke conducts The New York Pops in this concert version of the holiday classic. Stay after the show for a party with food, crafts, cookie decorating and other "Peanuts"-themed fun. Proceeds go to the visionary music education and community programs of Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute.

An R&B Christmas

Saturday, 8 p.m.
Brooklyn Center for the Performance Arts at Brooklyn College,
2900 Campus Rd., Flatbush
\$36-\$45, 718-951-4500
www.brooklyncenteronline.org
WCBS-FM 101.1's Broadway Bill Lee hosts this night of R&B music featuring some of the biggest names in the biz. Performers include Charlie Thomas' Drifters ("Under the Boardwalk"), The Coasters ("Yakety Yak") and Shirley Alston Reeves of The Shirelles ("Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow"). Expect some surprise holiday favorites in addition to their hits.

Holiday Movies at the Porch: 'Home Alone'

Thursday, 7 p.m.
Southwest Porch at Bryant Park,
41 W. 40th St.
Free, 212-768-4242
www.bryantpark.org
Macauley Culkin's Pizza

SHOPPING

Focus Camera Renovation sale

Dec. 22nd-26th, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
905 McDonald Ave., Brooklyn
There will be many cameras, lenses and filters on sale! We are ALSO inviting the local community and photographers out to experience photography workshops on portraiture and lenses. On Sunday afternoon we will host the renowned Kisha Bari of Kisha Bari Photography, who will conduct a workshop. She will be available for a short Q & A and demonstrations after the workshops. Please bring your camera and enjoy the wine and hors d'oeuvres that will be served. For more information, please contact info@focuscamera.com.

MUSIC



Pay tribute to the Godfather of Soul. / ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

NY Night Train James Brown Christmas Soul Clap & Dance Off

Saturday, 8 p.m.
Brooklyn Bowl, 61 Wythe Ave., Williamsburg; \$15, 718-963-3369; www.brooklynbowl.com
It was seven years ago on Christmas Day that the legendary Godfather of Soul James Brown passed away. DJ Jonathan Toubin pays homage to him with this night of all things James Brown: a performance by Jimmy Hill and the Allstarz Band featuring Black Velvet aka James Brown Jr., a four-hour dance party featuring James Brown songs and the Night Train Dance-Off for a \$100 prize. So get up, get on up, and stay on the scene.

Underground may be taking the Internet by storm right now, but back in 1990, "Home Alone" was where it was at. Pizza fame was made when Kevin ordered "a lovely cheese pizza, just for me." Catch Kevin defending his house against the "wet bandits" free of charge. Discounted food and drinks will be available and everyone who tells their server to "keep the change ya filthy animal" should get something, but probably won't, so maybe don't do that.

Tutu's Holiday Brunch Bazaar

Saturday, Noon
Tutu's,
25 Bogart St., Bushwick
Free, 718-456-7898
www.tutusbushwick.com
There's no better way to spend the last Saturday before Christmas than at the ol' "Eat & Flea" at Tutu's. Scarf down that eggs Benedict, grab a mimosa (or six)

and shop. There will be live jazz music, a photo booth and plenty of vintage clothing, jewelry and collectibles.

SOLSTICE

Winter Solstice Telescope Party

Thursday, 6:30 p.m.
Hayden Planetarium,
Space Theater
175 Central Park West
\$13.50-\$15, 212-769-5000
www.amnh.org
Hang out with Hayden astronomers and members of the Amateur Astronomers Association on this final fall night, studying the sky in all its celestial glory. First get a sneak preview inside Hayden's Space Theater, utilizing its state-of-the-art Zeiss IX planetarium projector, and then hit the telescopes outside.

Paul Winter



Cameras and equipment are on sale. / PROVIDED

MUSIC

The Breeders

Thursday-Friday, 7 p.m.
Webster Hall, 125 E 11th St.; \$30, 212-353-1600
www.websterhall.com
It's the '90s all over again! First the Pixies came back and Kim Deal decided to part ways with them, but don't pack your flannel away just yet: Now she's on tour with The Breeders performing "Last Splash" in its entirety for its 20th anniversary. "Cannonball" was a huge hit for them and this'll be the first time the same line-up has performed together in years.



We'd choose "Cannonball" over "Wrecking Ball" any day.

LECTURE

Jonah Hill and 'The Wolf of Wall Street'

Thursday, 7:15 p.m.; 92nd St. Y, 1395
Lexington Ave.; \$38 and up, 212-415-5500; www.92y.org
Sorry, Leo won't be there, but Jonah Hill's a nice backup, right? Hear the "Superbad" star dish on what it was like kissing Emma Stone before she got super-famous (he probably won't speak on that, but a guy can dream) and stay for a screening of his new film, "The Wolf of Wall Street."

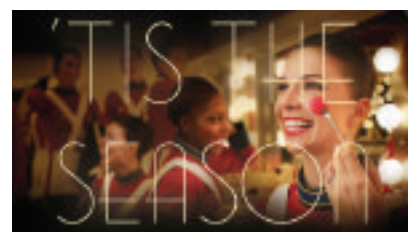


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Horoscope

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21. If you've neglected to look after your health, fevers will be the likely result. Preventive measures will be necessary.

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20. A partner could fail to appreciate your change in attitude. Make your feelings clear. An unexpected visitor may disrupt your private affairs.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18. Your creative abilities will come in handy. You will be able to easily impress others with your vibrant presence.

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20. Get involved in crafts. If you have been considering starting a family, now could be the time. Have fun with your life.

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20. Emotional distress is likely to trigger your temper. Try to mitigate your reactions to irritations. Distract yourself with private interests.

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21. Now is the time to mix business with pleasure. You stand to secure a prosperous deal with a new partner. There's no need to hesitate.

♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20. Unusual circumstances could complicate legal matters when dealing with someone else's finances. Get all the facts.

♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22. Communicate openly. Air your grievances rather than hostility. Only then can you move past your difficulties and create an atmosphere of accomplishment.

♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22. This is not a good time to try to influence others. Stick close to home. Alone time will be the key to productivity.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22. Contributing to worthwhile endeavors will allow you to share your time, energy and suggestions. Your dedication will be valued.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22. A stubborn someone will be impossible for you to deal with. You are better off focusing on professional advancements.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21. Seek out secure investment opportunities. This is a great day for broadening your mind and learning something new.

BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Sudoku: Easy and hard

	3			8			2	7
	1				7	5		
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		2	8				7	9
8				3				6
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			3	4			9	
9	2			1			8	

		4		5	9		3	
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	2				6			3
6	9	7						
		3	6					
	1		9	7		3		

How to play

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Crossword

Across

- 1 Prefix for "pod"
- 5 ASU locale
- 10 Oft-misused pronoun
- 14 ER picture (hyph.)
- 15 Weed killers
- 16 Captain Kirk's home
- 17 Morays
- 18 Gold brick
- 19 RN assistants
- 20 Hummingbirds' food
- 22 Put out volumes?
- 24 Codgers' queries
- 25 — Wiederschen
- 26 Head south
- 30 Demanding
- 34 Hertz rival
- 35 Know-how
- 37 Dryer fuzz
- 38 Thousand g's
- 39 "The Facts of Life" star
- 40 Embroider, maybe
- 41 Lugosi of "Dracula"
- 43 Extreme
- 45 — noire
- 46 Delegates
- 48 Apple pastry
- 50 Test tube's place
- 51 Brown the bandleader
- 52 Monotony
- 56 Had a fundraiser
- 60 Pirates' base

- 61 Ports and such
- 63 Mystique
- 64 — von Bismarck
- 65 Destroy data
- 66 Kind of squad
- 67 Lighter — -air
- 68 Financial obligations
- 69 To be, to Brutus

Down

- 1 Wagon pullers
- 2 Subarctic tribe
- 3 Chalky mineral
- 4 Silent types
- 5 Feels parched
- 6 Geologic spans
- 7 Actress — Ryan
- 8 Keep from falling
- 9 River mouth
- 10 Stubborn
- 11 Kachina doll makers
- 12 Holds the deed
- 13 Chicken feed
- 21 Gleeful shout
- 23 Leaf out
- 26 Deadly snake
- 27 Wall climbers
- 28 Fish organs
- 29 Titles like Tarzan's
- 30 Maintains
- 31 Applied WD-40

- 32 Join forces
- 33 Kind of guitar
- 36 Dye receptacle
- 42 Pilot's flap
- 43 Not yielding
- 44 Map collections
- 45 Rider's charge (2 wds.)
- 47 Seek excitement
- 49 Ump's cousin
- 52 Fix, as lipstick
- 53 Four-letter word
- 54 Comic — Rudner
- 55 Swampy area
- 56 Balance
- 57 San — Obispo
- 58 Piccadilly statue
- 59 Go steady
- 62 Take into custody

Yesterday's answer



Letters

Admiring his moves isn't Brown-nosing

Re: 'Austin Mahone: "I really admire Chris Brown"' (Metro, Dec. 16)

OK, we get it: Dorothy Robinson hates all things Chris Brown. I agree what he did — one time, in the past, to someone who forgave him — was reprehensible, but please put down your pitchfork for a split second. To scold Austin Mahone's admiration of Chris Brown's dance moves is

ludicrous. He never said he admires his personal life. He commented strictly on artistry. Get a parachute the next time you jump to (completely absurd) conclusions. The newspaper is at fault, too, for stating that he "wants to be like one controversial guy." According to what you printed, he never said that. It's supposed to be journalism, not sensationalism.

COURTNEY LOPEZ, VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us



Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

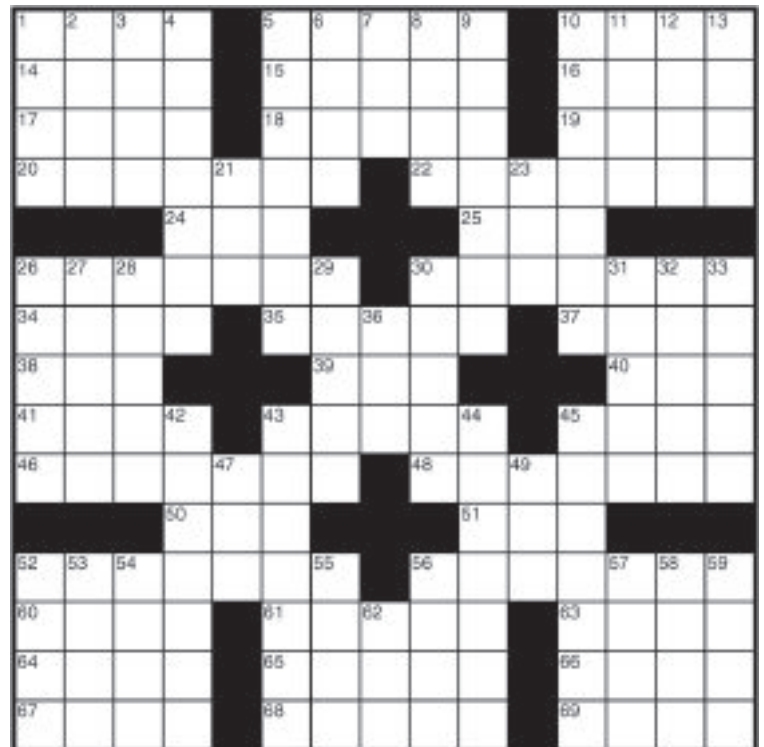
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Holmes: I'll take pay cut

NFL. The veteran wide receiver said he would like to stay in New York and retire in green and white.

Santonio Holmes wants to come back to the Jets next year, and he's willing to make the dollars and cents make sense.

Holmes said on Wednesday he is willing to take a pay cut to return to the Jets next year, even after taking a similar pay cut this past offseason to reach a more cap-friendly number for the team. After a season-ending Lisfranc injury in Week 4 last year, Holmes missed a good chunk of training camp as he rehabbed from the injury. He's missed five games this year with a hamstring injury which has led to a decrease in production.

He said he'd be willing



Santonio Holmes has spent the last five seasons with Rex Ryan and says he wants to retire with him as his head coach. / GETTY IMAGES

By the numbers

\$10+M

Holmes would be a cap hit of over \$10 million in 2014 should he not be cut or have his deal restructured.

to take a pay cut to return to the Jets next year.

"Anything for the team," Holmes said.

He was asked again if that meant even taking a pay cut and his answer was word-for-word the same.

"Anything for the team," Holmes repeated.

This has been a down year for Holmes by every standard, with just 18 receptions for 395 yards and a touchdown. Holmes does lead the Jets with an average of 21.9 yards per recep-

tion.

It wasn't a topic he liked talking about, but Holmes understood the business of the NFL and that if he wants to extend his stay in New York, something has to be done with his contract. Holmes would reportedly be a \$10.75 million cap hit next year.

"I wouldn't agree with it because you can't do anything about injuries. They occur," Holmes said. "First time I've been injured in my career. Like I said for the team, sacrifices need to be made."

Holmes would like to see head coach Rex Ryan return for a sixth year with the Jets. Holmes sees the rest of his career playing out with Ryan.

"I would love to play for him for the next couple years and even retire here — he and I both," Holmes said.

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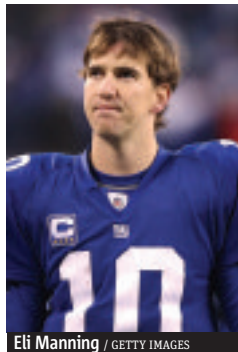
NFL. Manning finding offensive line issues too tough to overcome

As fashionable it is to criticize Giants quarterback Eli Manning lately for all of the team's woes, a deeper issue for the offense's malaise might be right in front of him — literally.

The Giants (5-9) are working with their third center this season, with David Baas and Jim Cordle both on season-ending injured reserve. Their starting right guard and elder statesman, Chris Snee, is also out for the year and the left guard is rookie Justin Pugh.

Head coach Tom Coughlin sounded leery when discussing what the Lions' front will do to the shaky Giants' offensive line.

"Their defense is 16th, but they're first in third down defense [and] they're first in the red zone. They have [defensive tackle Ndamukong Suh] and [defensive tackle Nick Fairley] and now [rookie defensive end Ezekiel] Ansah. Those are



Eli Manning / GETTY IMAGES

a few of the outstanding defensive players, particularly Suh. He's a hard-nosed, tough, attacking the line of scrimmage kind of a player," said Coughlin, who added he'd be disappointed if his offensive linemen weren't up to the task. "I expect us to prepare well and go out there with the idea of competing and doing the best they possibly can. It's about dependability and accountability and believing in each other."

TONY WILLIAMS

Weakest link

Gordon calls out Jets' secondary

Jets wide receiver Santonio Holmes put a charge in the Panthers secondary last week when he called them the "weakest link" on their defense. But the Jets might have their own bulletin board material this weekend via the mouth of Browns wide receiver Josh Gordon.

"I can't really say [why the secondary has struggled]," Gordon said. "I guess on one half of the field, you have a rookie over there. Guys are probably just trying to bomb on him every chance they can get. That might have a lot to do with it, more so than Cromartie's side."

Gordon is likely a Pro Bowler this season. He leads the NFL with 1,467 yards and is also first with 19.8 yards per reception.

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The Giants are out of it, but Rueben Randle still has something to prove. / GETTY IMAGES

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weight of roster decisions.

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Yo, Cuz

In two career starts, Kirk Cousins has two 300-yard games and five touchdown passes. This week, he'll be at home and gets to face a Cowboys defense whose ineptitude has reached epic proportions. We can no longer think of Cousins as a waiver-wire add that's a nice story. He's a legit candidate to outperform some big names this week. I'd start Captain Kirk over Andrew Luck (at Chiefs), Matt Ryan (at Niners), Carson Palmer (at Seahawks) and Joe Flacco (vs. Patriots).

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Thanks to Victor Cruz's knee injury and concussion, Rueben Randle is suddenly going from

someone who has been unstartable all season to someone very much on the WR3 radar. He's going to play every snap in a dome against a bad Lions secondary.

Randle has seen only 102 targets in his two-year career, but the playmaker has turned that into 56 catches, 869 yards and nine touchdowns. Despite the lack of precedent, starting Randle over low-upside options such as Stevie Johnson, James Jones and Riley Cooper is the smart move.

Stay the course

Of course, there are stars in bad spots this week. That doesn't mean we have to look to a hot name like Cousins or Randle.

Drew Brees has struggled outside of the Superdome and plays at Carolina, but he can't be benched. Continue to ride Nick Foles even though the Bears pass defense remains stout.

WR matchups

It's a bad week to start these wideouts.

- **Michael Floyd, Cardinals** — Playing through a gimpy ankle and facing the "Legion of Boom" in Seattle.

- **Harry Douglas, Falcons** — The Falcons' offensive line might get quarterback Matt Ryan killed. Douglas will struggle versus San Francisco cornerbacks Tarell Brown and Tramaine Brock.

- **Lance Moore, Saints** — You should not be chasing Moore's 6/78/0 Week 15 line is a bad play. The Saints won't move the ball well anywhere near as well when they go to Carolina.

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